

PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN

(11) Publication number : 11-144544

(43) Date of publication of application : 28.05.1999

(51) Int.Cl.

H01H 9/16

G09F 13/22

(21) Application number : 09-307573

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(22) Date of filing : 10.11.1997

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(54) ILLUMINATED SWITCH AND SURFACE LIGHT EMITTING DEVICE USED THEREFOR

(57) Abstract:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To provide a surface emission having high uniformity of luminance so that a sufficient luminance can be imparted to the end part of a display part (including an illuminated surface), and to reduce the size, weight, thickness and power consumption by using an organic electroluminescent element as light emitting part.

SOLUTION: In the opening and closing of a drive circuit in an illuminated switch 21, a switch part 19 is pressed, thereby closing the contact of the switch itself and also activating the drive circuit to emit a light from an organic electroluminescent element, and the switch part 19 is pressed again, thereby opening the contact and also stopping the drive circuit to extinguish the organic electroluminescent element. Since the mounting of the organic electroluminescent element can be performed only by bending a surface light emitting device 1 at a right angle, and setting the organic electroluminescent element which is the light emitting part of the surface light emitting device 1 on the back side of the illuminated surface 20 of the switch part 19, this switch can be manufactured in a simple manufacturing process.

